

NEWS/OBITUARIES

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Anti-psychotic prescriptions for kids skyrocket

40 children out of 1,000 take behavioral problem drugs

By LINDSEY TANNER
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO

Soaring numbers of American children are being prescribed anti-psychotic drugs, in many cases, for attention deficit disorder or other behavioral problems for which these medications have not been proven to work, a study found.

The annual number of children prescribed anti-psychotic drugs jumped fivefold between 1995 and 2002, to an estimated 2.5 million, the study said. That is an increase from 8.6 out of every 1,000 children in the mid-1990s to nearly 40 out of 1,000.

But more than half of the prescriptions were for attention deficit and other non-psychotic conditions, the researchers said.

The findings are worrisome "because it looks like these medications are being used for large numbers of children in a setting where we don't know if they work," said lead author Dr. William Cooper, a pediatrician at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

The increasing use of anti-psychotics since the mid-1990s corresponds with the introduction of costly and heavily marketed medications such as Zyprexa and Risperdal. The packaging information for both says their safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

Anti-psychotics are intended for use against schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses.

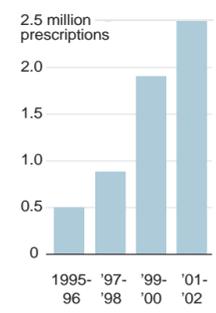
However, attention deficit disorder is sometimes accompanied by temper outbursts and other disruptive behavior. As a result, some doctors prescribe anti-psychotics to these children to calm them down, a strategy some doctors and parents say works.

The drugs, which typically cost several dollars per pill, are considered safer than older anti-psychotics, at least in adults, but they still can have serious side effects, including weight gain, elevated cholesterol and diabetes.

Anecdotal evidence suggests similar side effects occur in children,

Prescriptions for behavioral drugs grow

Anti-psychotic prescriptions among 2 to 18-year-olds



SOURCE: Ambulatory Pediatrics AP

but large-scale studies of youngsters are needed, Cooper said.

The researchers analyzed data on youngsters age 13 on average who were involved in annual national health surveys.

The surveys involved prescriptions given during 119,752 doctor visits. The researchers used that data to come up with national estimates.

The study appears in the March-April edition of the journal *Ambulatory Pediatrics*.

Heavy marketing by drug companies probably contributed to the increase in the use of anti-psychotic drugs among children, said Dr. Daniel Safer, a psychiatrist affiliated with Johns Hopkins University, who called the potential side effects a concern.

Safer said a few of his child patients with behavior problems are on the drugs after they were prescribed by other doctors. Safer said he has let these children continue on the drugs, but at low doses, and he also does periodic tests for high cholesterol or warning signs of diabetes.

FRANKLIN

Warren Abel

Warren Abel, 66, died Thursday, March 16, 2006, at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove. He was a resident of Franklin.

He is survived by his wife, Mary (Betts) Abel.

Services are pending at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home in Franklin.

FRANKLIN

Dorothy M. Baker

Dorothy M. Baker, 94, died Sunday, March 12, 2006. She was a resident of Franklin.

Survivors include a daughter, Cynthia (David) Boxler of Franklin; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Isaac Clinton O'Dell and Flora Mae Ragland; and her husband, Charles Baker.

The Rev. Ed Griffin will conduct a graveside service at 2 p.m. Saturday at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron, Ohio.

Local arrangements have been entrusted to Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Vandivier-Tudor Chapel, Franklin.

Information: 736-5292 or www.wilsonstpierre.com.

INDIANAPOLIS

Gale Roy Darland

Gale Roy Darland, 84, died Tuesday, March 14, 2006. He was a resident of Indianapolis.

Survivors include his children, Carolyn L. (Chester) Crump, Gary L. Darland and Larry R. (Candy) Darland; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth E. (Moore) Darland.

A funeral service will be conducted at 10 a.m. Monday at G.H. Herrmann Madison Ave. Funeral Home, 5141 Madison Ave. in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Entombment will be at Washington Park East Cemetery in Indianapolis.

NEW WHITELAND

Roland Hill

Roland Hill, 80, died Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. He was a resident of New Whiteland.

He was born Jan. 2, 1926, in Coal Bluff to the late Roland E. Jones and Marie Hill. He married Betty Albright on June 22, 1945. She survives. Other survivors include three sons, Dewayne (Linda) Hill of Westminster, Colo., Roland Ray (Christine) Hill of Bargersville, and Greg Hill of Lawrenceville, Ga.; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

He had been a supervisor for General Motors for 34 years, retiring in 1982.

Franklin
Warren Abel, 66
Dorothy M. Baker, 94
Greenwood
Margaret Louise Martin, 90
Cecil L. Norman, 81
Mary Almeeta Sutton, 80
New Whiteland
Roland Hill, 80
Kennel Lee Hodge, 61
Indianapolis
Gale Roy Darland, 84
Elsewhere
Ashley L. Parr, 19

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

He was a member of Columbus and Franklin senior centers and Knightsville Masonic Lodge F&A.M. No. 409.

He taught square, line and ballroom dancing for 36 years.

He was a district commissioner and Scoutmaster in 1967.

A funeral service will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday at Jessen Funeral Home, Whiteland Chapel, 729 U.S. 31 North. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. A Masonic service will be conducted by the Knightsville Masonic Lodge at 6 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Greenwood.

NEW WHITELAND

Kennel Lee 'Tiny' Hodge

Kennel Lee "Tiny" Hodge, 61, died Monday, March 13, 2006, at Kindred Hospital South in Greenwood. He was a resident of New Whiteland.

Survivors include his wife, Karen Kruchten of New Whiteland; two children, Marcia and Michael Kruchten of New Whiteland; three brothers, James Hodge Sr., Joseph Hodge and William Sandlin.

A memorial gathering will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Flying J Truck Stop, 4982 N. County Road 350E in Whiteland, in remembrance of him as a long-time truck driver.

Jessen Funeral Home, Whiteland Chapel is handling arrangements.

GREENWOOD

Margaret Louise 'Nan' (Goddard) Martin

Margaret Louise "Nan" (Goddard) Martin, 90, died Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at Kindred Hospital South in Greenwood. She was a resident of Greenwood and a former resident of Terre Haute.

She was born May 22, 1915, in Terre Haute to the late John and Grace (Hayes) Goddard.

Survivors include her daughters, Carolyn Tingley of Greenwood and Norma (Gerald) Pruitt of Largo, Fla.; four grandchildren, Charmin Sanders, Julie McFee, Douglas Tingley and Jerald Tingley; and nine great-grandchildren, Carrie, Kristen, Brian, Ryan, Jennifer, Bailey, Trenton, Garrett and Camden. She also was preceded in death by two brothers, Ray and Harold Goddard.

She was a member of Cornerstone Bible Church in Terre Haute. She was a beloved mother and grandmother.

The Rev. Ben Johnson will conduct a funeral service at 10 a.m. today at Callahan Funeral Home, 2425 Wabash Ave., in Terre Haute. There will be no visitation. Burial will be at Roselawn Memorial Park in Terre Haute.

GREENWOOD

Cecil L. Norman

Cecil L. Norman, 81, passed away Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at his Greenwood residence.

He was born July 2, 1924, in Bloomington to the late Lawrence and Maude (Blackwell) Norman. He married Nina Terrell on Sept. 11, 1943. She survives. Other survivors include a sister, Hazel Fewell of Greenwood; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a son, Terry M. Norman; and a sister, Helen Wray.

Mr. Norman was a veteran of the U.S. Marines, serving in World War II.

He retired from Laminated Fabricators in 1983. He then worked as a staff associate at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory.

Mr. Norman was a member of the Gospel Assembly Church in Indianapolis. He also was a member of the American Legion No. 252 and Veterans of Foreign Wars No. 6978.

The Rev. Walter Stevenson will conduct a service at 10 a.m. Saturday at Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, Greenwood Chapel, 481 W. Main St. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Entombment will be at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 6030 W. 62nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46278.

Online condolences may be made to the Norman family at www.wilsonstpierre.com.

BROWN COUNTY

Ashley L. Parr

Ashley L. Parr, 19, died Wednesday, March 15, 2006. She was a resident of Brown County.

She is survived by her father, Donald (Lori) Parr; and her mother, Patricia K. (Chuck) Morgan.

Arrangements are pending at Meredith-Clark Funeral Home, Cremation and Personalization Center in Morgantown.

GREENWOOD

Mary A. (Wilson) Sutton

Mary Almeeta (Wilson) Sutton, 80, was born Oct. 15, 1925, in Ballard County, Ky.

She departed this life Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove.

Mary is survived by her loving husband, Lindell Sutton of Greenwood; two daughters, Sandra (Paul) Vest of Nashville, Tenn., and Kathy (Russell) Conaway of Franklin; five grandchildren, Pamela, Greg and Stephen Vest, and Angie and David Conaway; and five great-grandchildren, Nathan, Jacob, Jeffrey, Aaron and Joshua. Also surviving is one sister, Betty Smith of Louisville, Ky.

Preceding her in death were her parents, James and Beatrice (Green) Wilson; a sister, Kathleen Lindsey; and a brother, David P. Wilson.

Mary was a lifetime member of Gospel Assembly Church. She was active in many activities, including teaching Sunday school and Bible school and singing in the choir for 40 years.

Mary attended school in Ballard County, Ky., until the age of 7. She then moved with her family to Cairo, Ill., where she continued her education.

In 1956 she and her husband and family moved to Kansas City, Mo. There they spent approximately 30 years.

She had worked for A&P and Piggly Wiggly grocery stores in Missouri for many years.

In 1986 Lindell and Mary made another move to Indianapolis. There they would be close to their children and grandchildren.

Six years ago, Mary was stricken with a health problem that required a professional nursing facility, Franklin Meadows.

Practically every day of those six years, Lindell didn't miss one opportunity to be with her and to see that her needs were met.

If Mary could speak for herself today she would tell you that her life has been wonderful and full of love from her family and friends.

A funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday at Gospel Assembly Church, 5809 Bluff Road in Indianapolis. Friends may call from 5 to 9 p.m. today at Jessen Funeral Home, Whiteland Chapel, 729 U.S. 31 North. Burial will be at Hopewell Cemetery near Franklin.

● Iraq

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ferry in and provide cover for the 1,450 Iraqi and U.S. troops.

The military said the assault, Operation Swarmer, aimed to clear a suspected insurgent operating area and would continue over several days.

Residents in the area of the assault reported a heavy U.S. and Iraqi troop presence and said large explosions could be heard in the distance. American forces routinely blow up structures they suspect as insurgent safe-houses or weapons depots. It was not known if they met any resistance, but the military reported detaining 41 people.

The attack was launched as Iraq's new parliament met briefly for the first time. Lawmakers took the oath but did



AP PHOTO

U.S. Army soldiers exit a CH-47 Chinook helicopter in support of Operation Swarmer in Samarra, Iraq, on Thursday.

no business and adjourned after just 40 minutes, unable to agree on a speaker, let alone a prime minister. The legislature set no date to meet again.

Still, the session marked a small step toward forming a

unity government that the Bush administration hopes will calm the insurgency and enable it to begin withdrawing U.S. troops.

Operation Swarmer also came as the Bush administration was attempting to show critics at home and abroad that it is dealing effectively with Iraq's insurgency and increasingly sectarian violence.

The U.S. military forces have been trying to build up the Iraqi army so that it can play a leading role in fighting the insurgents.

The operation appeared concentrated near four villages — Jillam, Mamlaha, Banat Hassan and Bukaddou — about 20 miles north of Samarra. The settlements are near the highway leading from Samarra to the city of Adwar, scene of repeated insurgent roadblocks and ambushes.

"Gunmen exist in this area, killing and kidnapping policemen, soldiers and civilians," said Waqas al-Juwanya, a spokesman for pro-

vincial government's joint coordination center in nearby Dowr.

Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Barry Venable said the operation was the biggest air assault since April 22, 2003, when the 101st Airborne Division launched an operation against the northern city of Mosul from Iskandariyah, south of Baghdad.

Many operations in Iraq since then — in such cities as Fallujah, Ramadi and Najaf — have included far more troops. But none has involved such a large force moved in by air. Some 650 U.S. and 800 Iraqi troops were participating Thursday.

The Pentagon said there were no reporters embedded with U.S. troops, and it released video and a series of photos of preparations for the assault. The images showed soldiers receiving a pre-flight briefing from a UH-60 Blackhawk crew chief, soldiers and aircraft positioned on an airstrip, and helicopters taking off

over a dusty landscape.

But Gen. John Abizaid, chief of the U.S. Central Command, sought to downplay the uniqueness of the raid.

"I wouldn't characterize this as being anything that's a big departure from normal or from the need to prosecute a target that we think was lucrative enough to commit this much force to go get," Abizaid said.

In recent months U.S. forces have routinely used helicopters to insert troops during operations against insurgent strongholds, especially in the Euphrates River valley between Baghdad and the Syrian border.

Samarra, the largest city near the operation, was the site of a massive bombing against a Shiite shrine on Feb. 22 that touched off sectarian bloodshed that has killed more than 500 and injured hundreds more.

It is a key city in Salahuddin province, a major part of the so-

called Sunni triangle where insurgents have been active since shortly after the U.S.-led invasion three years ago. Saddam Hussein was captured in the province, not far from its capital and his hometown, Tikrit.

Presidential security adviser Lt. Gen. Wafiq al-Samarai said the operation was targeting "a bunch of strange criminals who came from outside the country and among them a bunch of Iraqi criminals who help them."

Iraq's interim foreign minister, Hoshyar Zebari, said the attack was necessary to prevent insurgents from forming a new stronghold such as they established in Fallujah, west of Baghdad, until they were flushed out by U.S. forces at the end of 2004.

"After Fallujah and some of the operations carried out successfully in the Euphrates and Syrian border, many of the insurgents moved to areas nearer to Baghdad," Zebari said.

● Policy

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

White House officials were quick to deny any connection between the assault, which the military billed as the biggest air operation since the April 2003, and the national security update.

Both came as the administration scrambled to turn around public opinion. Polls show eroding support for the war and slippage in the traditional GOP advantage on national security. President Bush has embarked on a series of speeches defending his Iraq policy.

In its 49-page report, "The National Security Strategy," the White House said Iran tops the list of nations threatening the United States.

Some analysts suggested the report, in total, represented an attempt to change the subject from Iraq.

"It's clear they are shifting their focus somewhat in terms of depicting Iran as the next great threat to the United States," said

Kurt Campbell, a former deputy assistant secretary of defense.

"It's inevitable that Iraq is still going to consume most of our national attention. But there is going to be more focus at the diplomatic and strategic level over what to do next vis-a-vis Iran," said Campbell, an expert on international security at the Center for International and Strategic Studies.

Said Stephen Hadley, Bush's national security adviser: "The future of Iraq is in the hands of the Iraqis."

Polls have shown Bush at the lowest approval level of his presidency, 37 percent in a recent AP-Ipsos poll. Increasing pessimism about the war is hurting Bush and congressional Republicans the most, the polls show, possibly threatening the party's majorities in the House and the Senate.

"The war in Iraq has certainly been difficult. And the level of activity from the insurgents has increased," said House Majority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio. "Whenever you're at war and you've got 135,000 of our young men and women overseas, it is unsettling to Americans. I think

we understand that."

There are about 133,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. The total expanded slightly when an Army battalion of about 700 soldiers was sent in this week from Kuwait to help deal with potential violence during a Shiite religious holiday.

At least 2,311 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count on Wednesday.

Since the start of U.S. military operations there, 17,124 U.S. service members have been wounded, according to a Defense

Department tally on Wednesday.

A Wall Street Journal-NBC poll on Thursday showed that respondents, by 50 percent to 28 percent, said the war had weakened America's standing in the world. Some 44 percent of those surveyed said it had increased the potential threat from Iran — 28 percent said it hadn't.

The new White House report accused Iran of supporting terrorists, threatening Israel and disrupting democratic reform in Iraq.

In an opening statement, Bush cautioned that diplomacy to halt Tehran's nuclear activities "must

succeed if confrontation is to be avoided."

The report acknowledged setbacks, including continuing strife in Iraq, backsliding on democratization reforms by Russia, and new challenges from a dispersed al-Qaida.

Thursday's helicopter and ground offensive, involving 1,500 Iraqi and U.S. troops and more than 50 aircraft, targeted insurgent strongholds near Samarra, a city 60 miles north of Baghdad.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan denied it was tied to the new campaign to change war opinion. "This was a decision

made by our commanders," he said, adding that Bush was briefed but did not specifically authorize the operation.

Michael O'Hanlon, a military analyst at the Brookings Institute, said the doctrine of military pre-emption to avert a potential attack is a long-standing concept under international law that many leaders accept.

"What's controversial is whether a U.S. administration should talk about it so much," O'Hanlon said. He said the Bush administration had turned it into "a bumper sticker" and "that is making many nervous."

KEEPSAKES

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DAILY JOURNAL

In Loving Memory of

MARILYN HENSELMEIER

WHO PASSED AWAY MARCH 17, 2005

You will never be forgotten.
We all miss you terribly.
Until we are united together again,
your memory is our keepsake.

Your Loving Family